



Docket No.: 1609.1001

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

#81a
1-20-02
1-30-02

In re the Application of:

Hitoshi IWASAKA et al.

Serial No. 09/930,159

Group Art Unit: 3753

Confirmation No. 1497

Filed: August 16, 2001

Examiner: To be assigned

For: NON-CONTACTING CONVEYANCE EQUIPMENT

AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action mailed September 24, 2002, and having a period for response set to expire on December 24, 2002. A Petition for a one -month extension of time, together with the requisite fee for same, is submitted herewith, thereby extending the period for response to January 24, 2003.

The following amendments and remarks are respectfully submitted. Reconsideration of the claims is respectfully requested.

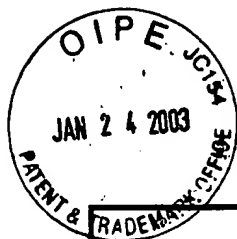
IN THE CLAIMS:

Please CANCEL claims 2 and 15-24.

Please REPLACE claim 1 and ADD new claims 25-37 in accordance with the following:

1. (ONCE AMENDED) Non-contacting conveyance equipment comprising:
a hole-like concave opening having a continuous walled inner peripheral surface;
an end face that opposes an object to be conveyed, the end face being formed in the
concave opening; and
a fluid passageway comprising a spout facing the inside of the concave opening, to
supply fluid to the inner peripheral surface of the concave opening so as to cause a swirl of fluid
within the concave opening.

01/27/2003 WABDELRI 00000021 09930159
01 FC:1202 36.00 0P
01/27/2003 WABDELRI 00000021 09930159
02 FC:1251 110.00 0P



3753
\$

S&H Form: (10/01)

| | | | |
|--------------------------------------------|----------------------|------------------------|----------------|
| REPLY/AMENDMENT FEE TRANSMITTAL | Attorney Docket No. | 1609.1001 | |
| | Application Number | 09/930,159 | |
| | Filing Date | August 16, 2001 | |
| | First Named Inventor | Hitoshi IWASAKA et al. | |
| | Group Art Unit | 3753 | |
| AMOUNT ENCLOSED | 146.00 | Examiner Name | To be assigned |

FEE CALCULATION (fees effective 10/01/01)

| CLAIMS AS AMENDED | Claims Remaining After Amendment | Highest Number Previously Paid For | Number Extra | Rate | Calculations |
|--------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| TOTAL CLAIMS | 26 | - 24 = | 2 | X \$ 18.00 = | \$ 36.00 |
| INDEPENDENT CLAIMS | 2 | - 4 = | 0 | X \$ 84.00 = | 0.00 |

Since an Official Action set an original due date of December 24, 2002, petition is hereby made for an extension to cover the date this reply is filed for which the requisite fee is enclosed (1 month (\$110); 2 months (\$410); 3 months (\$930); 4 months (\$1,450); 5 months (\$1,970)):

110.00

If Notice of Appeal is enclosed, add (\$320)

If Statutory Disclaimer under Rule 20(d) is enclosed, add fee (\$110)

Total of above Calculations =

\$ 146.00

Reduction by 50% for filing by small entity (37 CFR 1.9, 1.27 & 1.28)

TOTAL FEES DUE =

\$ 146.00

(1) If entry (1) is less than entry (2), entry (3) is "0".

(2) If entry (2) is less than 20, change entry (2) to "20".

(4) If entry (4) is less than entry (5), entry (6) is "0".

(5) If entry (5) is less than 3, change entry (5) to "3".

METHOD OF PAYMENT

- ☒ Check enclosed as payment.
- ☐ Charge "TOTAL FEES DUE" to the Deposit Account No. below.
- ☐ No payment is enclosed and no charges to the Deposit Account are authorized at this time (unless specifically required to obtain a filing date).

GENERAL AUTHORIZATION

- ☒ If the above-noted "AMOUNT ENCLOSED" is not correct, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to credit any overpayment or charge any additional fees necessary to:

Deposit Account No.

19-3935

Deposit Account Name

STAAS & HALSEY LLP

- ☒ The Commissioner is also authorized to credit any overpayments or charge any additional fees required under 37 CFR 1.16 (filing fees) or 37 CFR 1.17 (processing fees) during the prosecution of this application, including any related application(s) claiming benefit hereof pursuant to 35 USC § 120 (e.g., continuations/divisionals/CIPs under 37 CFR 1.53(b) and/or continuations/divisionals/CPAs under 37 CFR 1.53(d)) to maintain pendency hereof or of any such related application.

SUBMITTED BY: STAAS & HALSEY LLP

| | | | |
|------------|----------------------|----------|-------------|
| Typed Name | Mark J. Henry | Reg. No. | 36,162 |
| Signature | <i>Mark J. Henry</i> | Date | Jan 24 2003 |

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